

CLAIMS

What claimed is:

1. The method of making a synthetic gem comprising elements recovered from remains of a species of the Kingdom Animalia, comprising the steps of:

- 5 a. collecting substantially pure carbon from the remains; and
 b. creating gems from the carbon using crystal growth sublimation.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein collecting substantially pure carbon is performed by placing the remains in a collection box in order to substantially reduce oxidation of the remains during cremation.

10 3. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of purifying the carbon.

4. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of graphitizing the carbon.

5. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of faceting and polishing the gems.

15 6. The method of making a synthetic diamond comprising elements recovered from remains of a human, comprising the steps of:

- a. collecting substantially pure carbon from the remains; and
 b. creating at least one diamond from the carbon using crystal growth sublimation.

20 7. The method of claim 6 wherein collecting substantially pure carbon is performed by placing the remains in a collection box in order to substantially reduce oxidation of the remains during at least a portion of the cremation process.

8. The method of claim 6 further comprising the step of purifying the carbon.

9. The method of claim 6 further comprising the step of graphitizing the carbon.

10. The method of claim 6 further comprising the step of faceting and polishing the gems.

5 11. The method of making a synthetic diamond comprising elements recovered from human remains, comprising the steps of:

a. collecting substantially pure carbon from human remains by placing the remains in a collection box in order to substantially reduce oxidation of the remains during cremation;

10 b. purifying the carbon;

d. graphitizing the carbon;

e. creating a synthetic diamond from the carbon using crystal growth sublimation; and

f. faceting and polishing the synthetic diamond.

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12. A gem-quality diamond comprising carbon derived from one or more specific humans or animals, wherein said diamond is made by:

a. providing remains of a specific human or animal,

b. separating elemental carbon from said remains; and

20 c. converting said elemental carbon to at least one gem-quality diamond.

13. A method of cremating human or animal remains to provide elemental carbon and conventional cremated remains, comprising:

- a. incompletely cremating human or animal remains;
- b. separating carbonaceous material from said remains; and
- c. after said separating step, further cremating said remains to provide conventional cremated remains.